

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 9, 12, 18 and 24 being the independent claims. Based on the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has provisionally rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 2-25 of co-pending U.S. Application No. 09/430,821 (Atty. Dkt. No. 1875.132000A). On March 3, 2005, Applicants filed an Express Abandonment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138 in U.S. Application No. 09/430,821, thereby rendering this rejection moot. As a courtesy to the Examiner, Applicants have enclosed a copy of the date-stamped postcard, SKGF cover letter, and Form PTO/SB/24 as filed in U.S. Application No. 09/430,821 on March 3, 2005. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

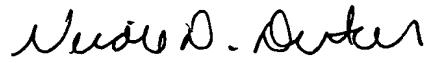
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for

allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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